

POPHAM HAIK

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September 22, 1992

Frederick K. Grittner
Supreme Court Administrator
and Clerk of Appellate Courts
245 Judicial Center
25 Constitution Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55155

OFFICE OF
APPELLATE COURTS

SEP 25 1992

FILED

Re: Recommendation of Russell A. Blanck to the Supreme
Court Advisory Committee on Lawyer Discipline and
American Bar Association Recommendations

CI-84-2140

Dear Mr. Grittner:

It is my pleasure to submit the enclosed resume and letter of recommendation in support of Russell Blanck's appointment to the Advisory Committee on Lawyer Discipline. Russ joined the litigation department of the Popham, Haik firm as a lateral associate in 1989. I have had the opportunity to work with Russ in both firm administration and client matters. From the very beginning, it was clear to me as well as my partners that Russ can be entrusted with complex client matters. Russ has demonstrated the ability to handle tough client issues with diplomacy and honesty. I have also observed that Russ approaches his assignments with an incredible amount of energy and determination. I am certain that Russ would bring an invaluable mix of experience, good judgment, and wisdom to the Committee.

I trust that you will seriously consider Russ's candidacy for appointment and if you have any questions, do not hesitate to give me a call.

Very truly yours,


Ellen L. Maas

ELM/rhs
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RUSSELL A. BLANCK

Mr. Blanck is a litigator whose practice has encompassed trials, motions and appeals in state and federal courts in New York and Minnesota. He concentrates his practice in the areas of mechanic's lien, construction, commercial, contractual and real-property related litigation.

Mr. Blanck has lectured on mechanic's lien law at the Annual Convention of the Minnesota Chapter of the Associated Builders and Contractors. He also lectured on recent decisions in condemnation law before the Annual Meeting of the American Bar Association in August, 1991.

Mr. Blanck received his undergraduate degree, Phi Beta Kappa, from Rutgers College, New Brunswick, New Jersey, and his J.D. in 1982 from the National Law Center of George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

He is a co-author of "Recent Decisions in Condemnation (Non-Inverse)" published in the Fall, 1990 edition of the *Zoning and Land Use Newsletter*, Committee On Condemnation, Section Of Litigation, American Bar Association. He is a member of the American Bar Association, Minnesota State Bar Association, Hennepin County Bar Association and New York State Bar Association.

A representative sampling of matters Mr. Blanck has handled include:

- Defense and prosecution of numerous mechanic's lien actions
- Appeals to overturn denials of developers' applications for municipal approvals
- Defense and prosecution of defective and unworkmanlike construction claims in residential and commercial construction
- Defense of architect malpractice claim involving design of a condominium
- Commissioners' hearing for condemnor's taking of easement for installation of utilities
- Defense of return of downpayment/fraud/conspiracy claim in the sale of condominiums
- Construction arbitration award for defective construction and fraud

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